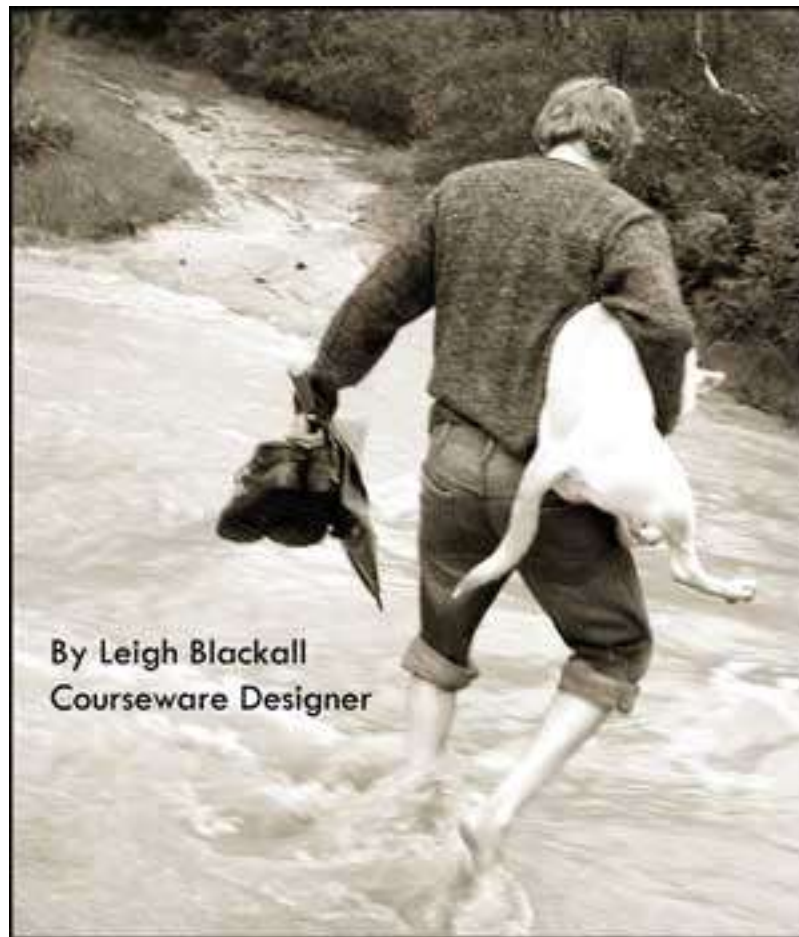


Using Free and Open Source Software



Using free and open source software:

- lowers costs
- is more reliable
- builds capacity
- encourages innovation
- offers flexibility
- improves equality
- empowers teachers and students
- promotes sharing & communication

What You Are About To See



- A successful
Learnscope Project
- A Range of FOSS
- How We Might Use
FOSS in education
- A Free and Open
Education For All
- Further Readings

The Learnscope2004 Project - “OpenCourseWare”



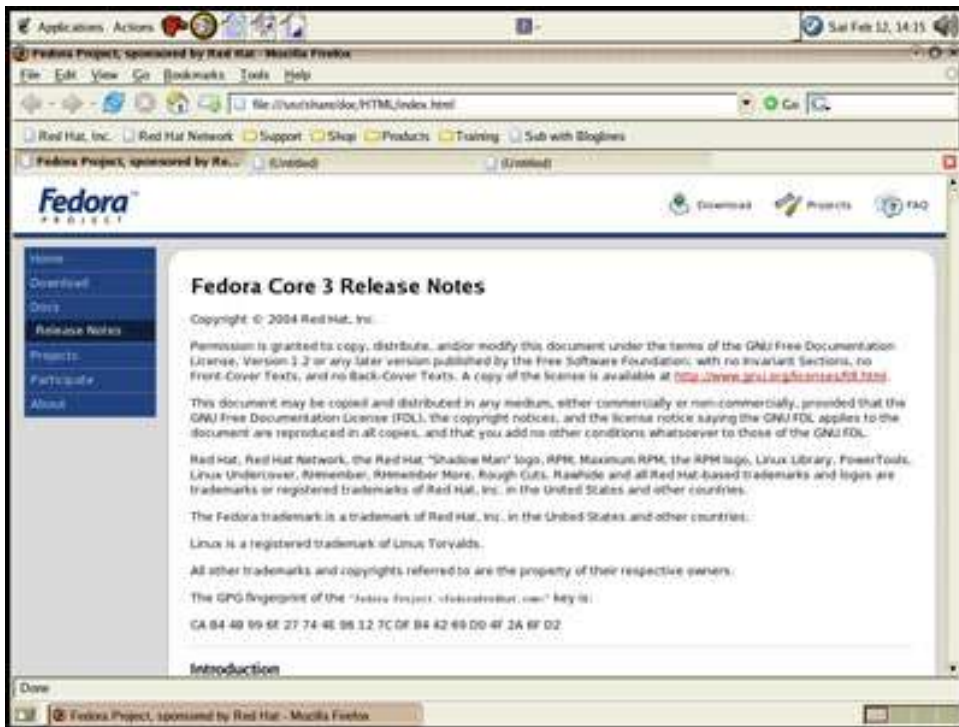
- Inspired by Marty Cielens at Networking 2003 conference
- Initiated in 2004 by Hunter Institute's R&D Unit ITALIC
- 10 teachers, librarians, IT support staff, teacher trainers and courseware designers evaluating FOSS and OCW for Education
- 3 face to face workshops, 1 public seminar, an online forum at AFLF website, an eGroup, a public website, and many subsequent workshops

What Useful FOSS Is Out There?

As of 1400hrs Sydney Time, 11 February 2005

- Linux – Fedora Core 3
- Linux Terminal Server Project
- Open Office
- GIMP
- Audacity
- NVU
- Moodle
- Cmaps
- Hot Potatoes
- Mozilla FireFox
- Blogger
- Hello
- Yahoo Geocities / BriefCase
- Bloglines
- Del.icious
- GoogleGroups
- Google Alerts
- Google Gmail

Mozilla FireFox



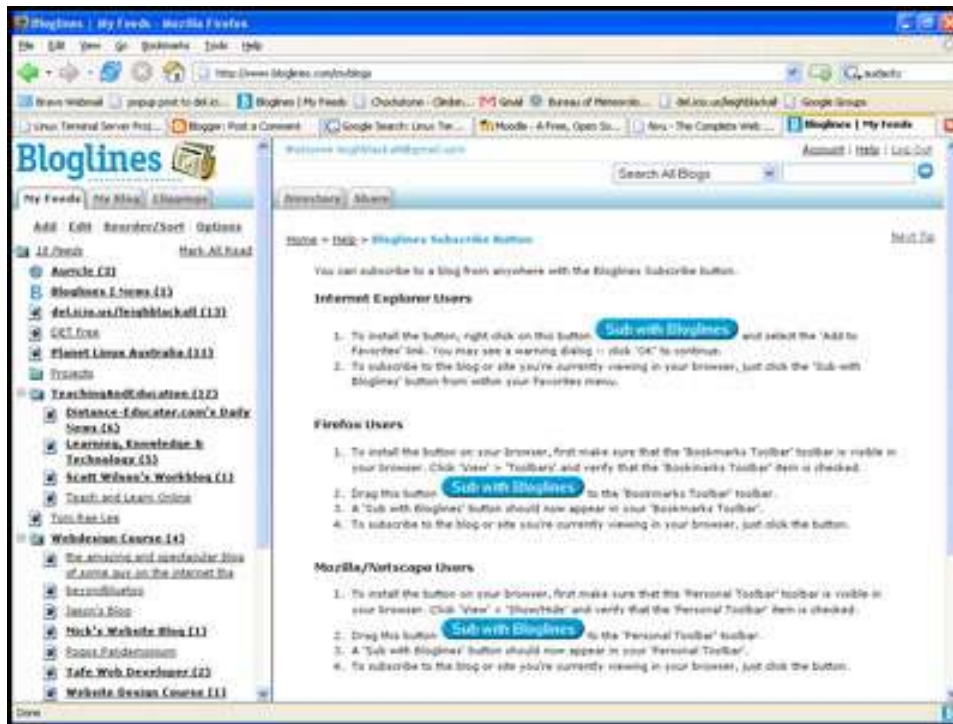
- Vastly improved Internet browser
- Tab windows for extensive browsing
- Inbuilt features from many useful Internet services such as Google and Bloglines

Blogger – free Internet publishing



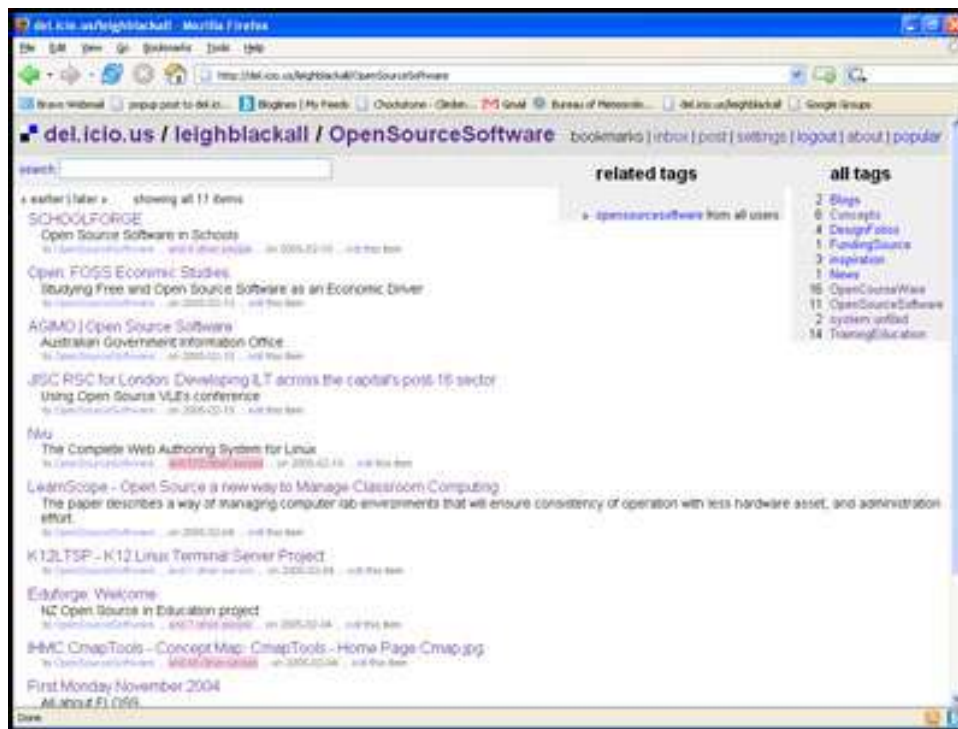
- So easy to set up and manage, even my mum has a blogger site!
- Excellent for teaching
- Good for students to set up an online journal
- Great range of layout templates
- No advertising
- Comments and many other features
- Everyone should have a blog!

Bloglines – website news and new information aggregator



- Keep up to date with the latest news information published on your favourite websites
- Excellent for teachers tracking student blogs
- Good research tool
- Good group collaboration tool

Del.icio.us – Internet based favourites



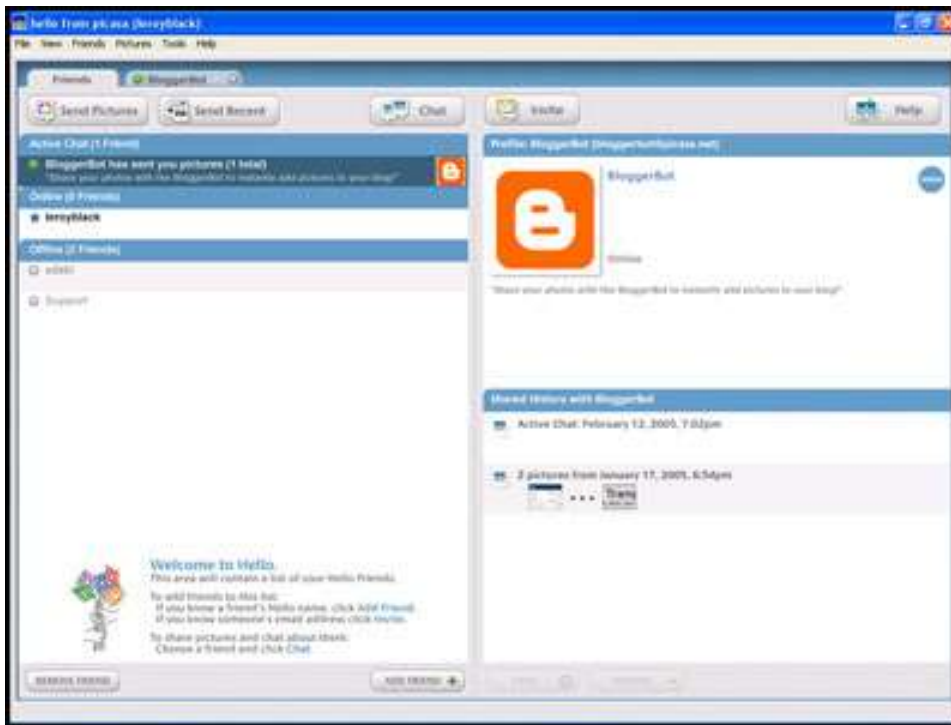
- Store all your favourite websites on your Del.icio.us account
- You can publish your list
- You can categorise your list
- Always there when you need it
- Publishes well to Bloglines

GoogleGroups – Internet based email distribution list



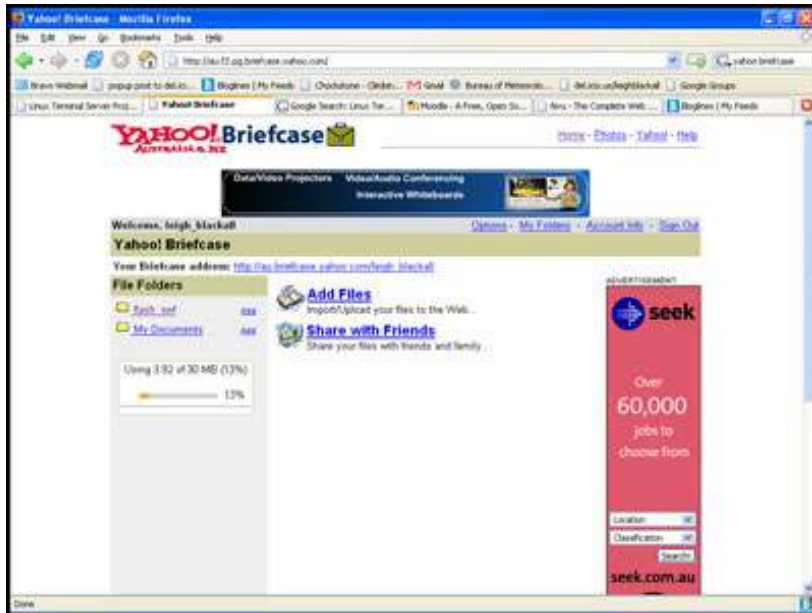
- Very easy to set up
- Easy to manage
- All discussion is stored
- No advertising in emails
- Egrouping is tried and true Internet communications

Hello – chat and peer to peer picture file sharing



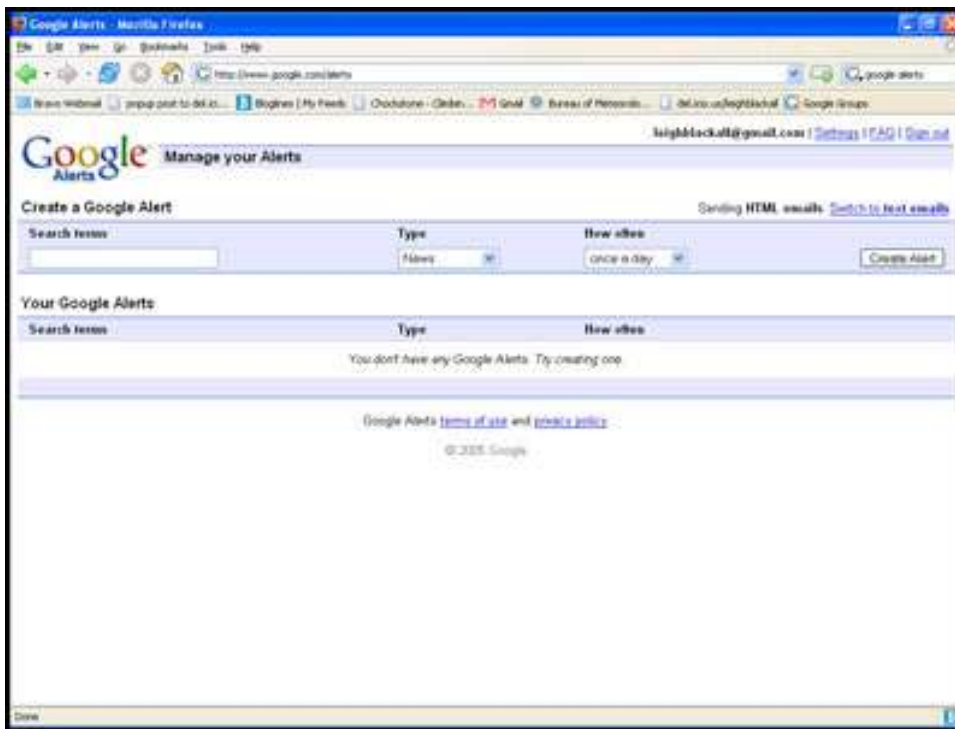
- Can be used as a chat program
- Users can send pictures and graphics to each other
- Hello takes care of image compression for the Internet
- Only runs on windows

Yahoo BriefCase / GeoCities



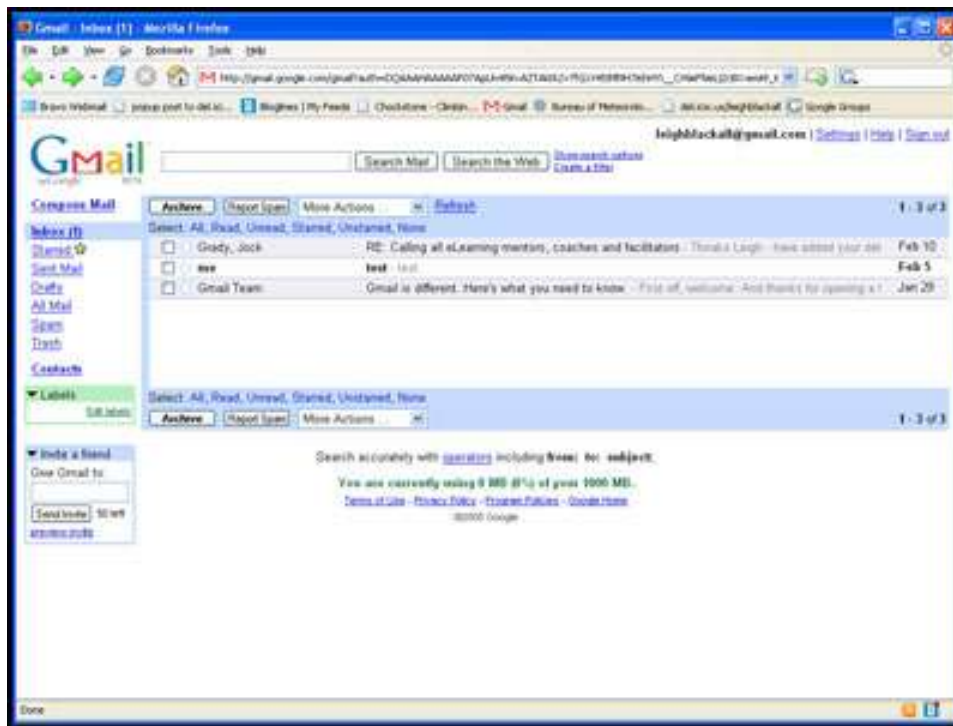
- Combined 80 megabytes of Internet file storage
- Good way to store files and link to from email or blogger
- Alternative to spending more than Au\$120 per year for server space
- Files limited to 5 megabytes each

Google Alerts – Google search to your email



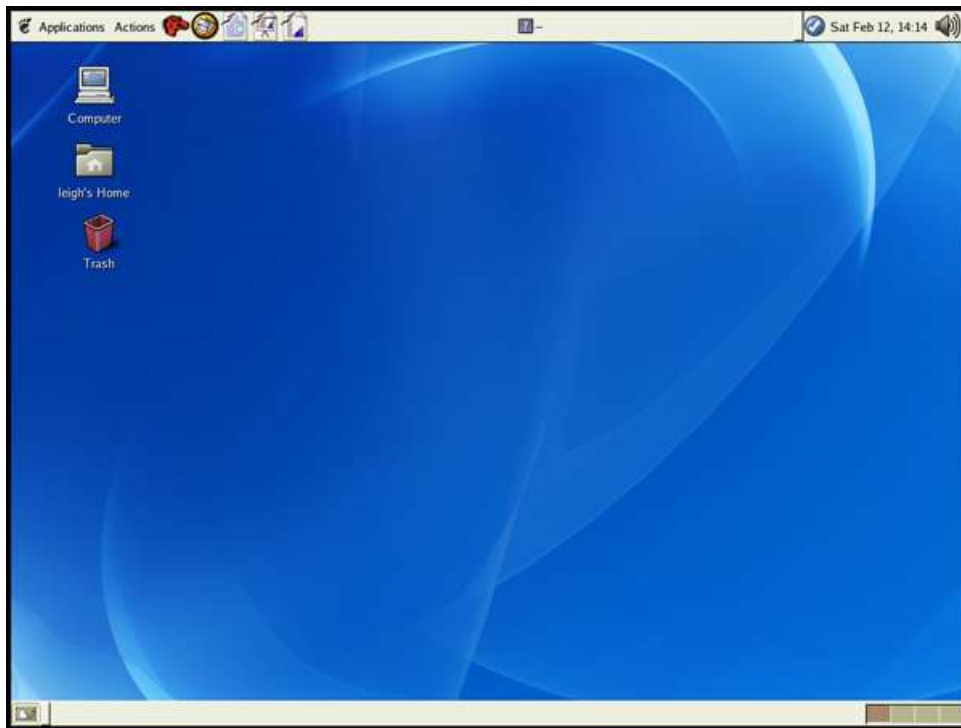
- Easy to set up
- Very handy to keep track of particular topics
- Can be set to day, week or month notices

Gmail – email accounts



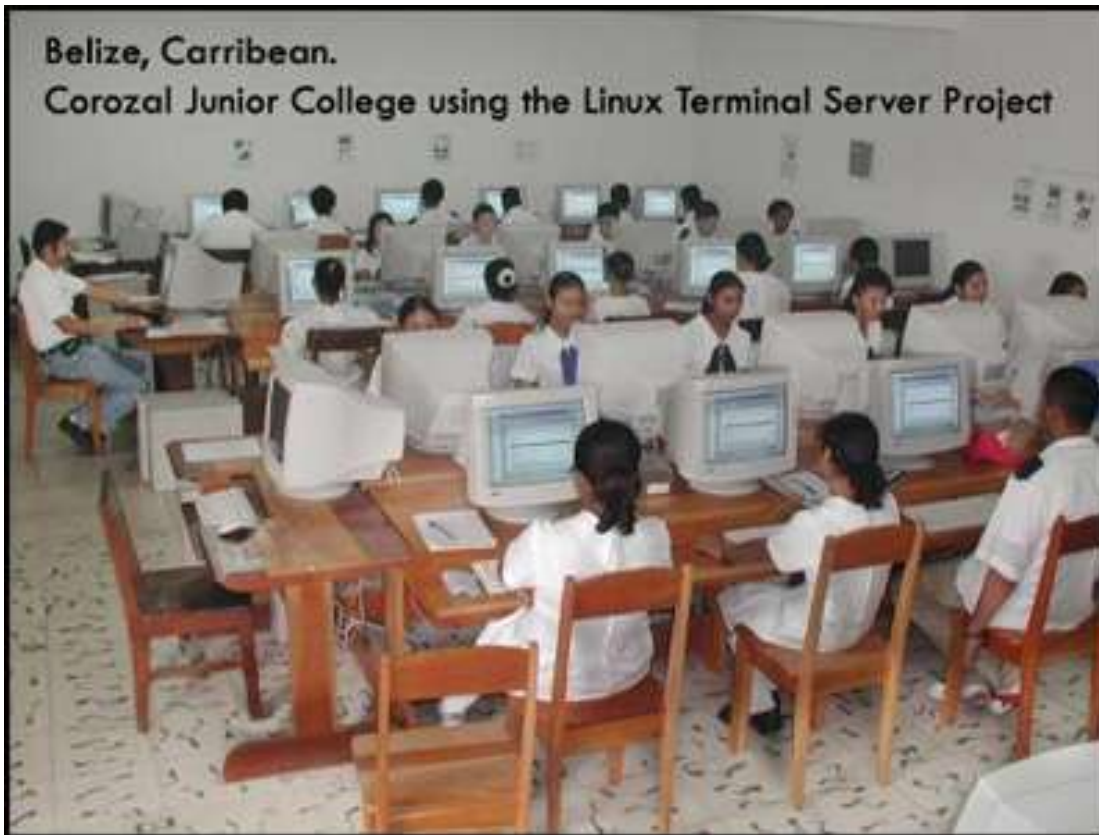
- 1 gigabyte of email storage!!!
- Very manageable
- Excellent google search features

Linux Fedora Core 3 - Desktop Operating System Software

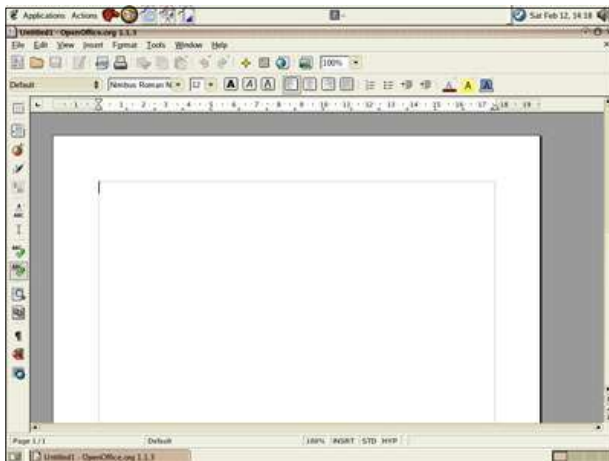
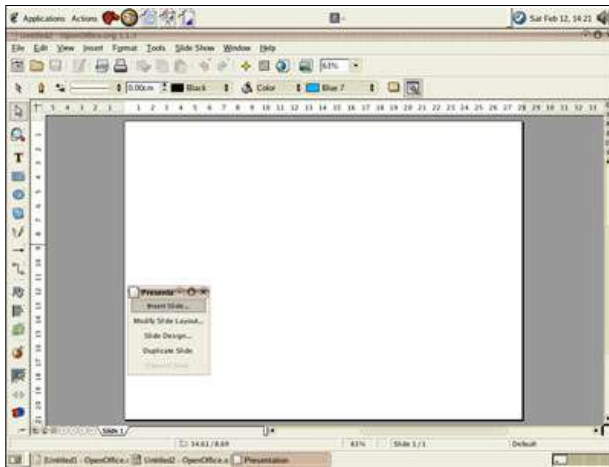
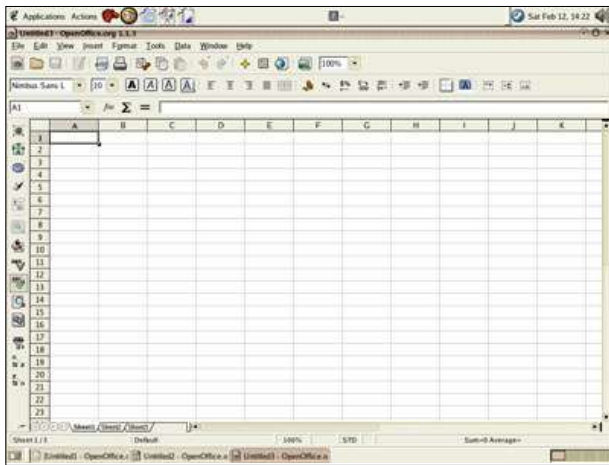


- Easy to operate (Similar to the Macintosh OS)
- Comes with Internet, email, office, CD burning, graphics, media player, photo and drawing software
- Community or commercial support from RedHat

Linux Terminal Server Project



- one central Linux server, with many disk-less terminals
- each terminal draws applications from, and saves data to central server
- saves over Au\$200 per terminal



Open Office

- word processor
- spread sheet processor
- presentation authoring
- diagram creator
- drawing
- formula processor
- calculator
- project planner
- Easily makes PDF and SWF

GNU Image Manipulation Program



- FOSS equivalent to Adobe Photoshop
- Easy to operate
- Huge range of brushes and other drawing tools
- Huge range of photo editing and effects tools

Audacity – sound recording and editing



- quick to download
- easy to install
- simple to use
- useful range of tools fit for most audio recording and editing jobs

NVU (New View) – HTML Website authoring, editing, site management



A standards compliant,
nice and simple
HTML editor.

Includes:

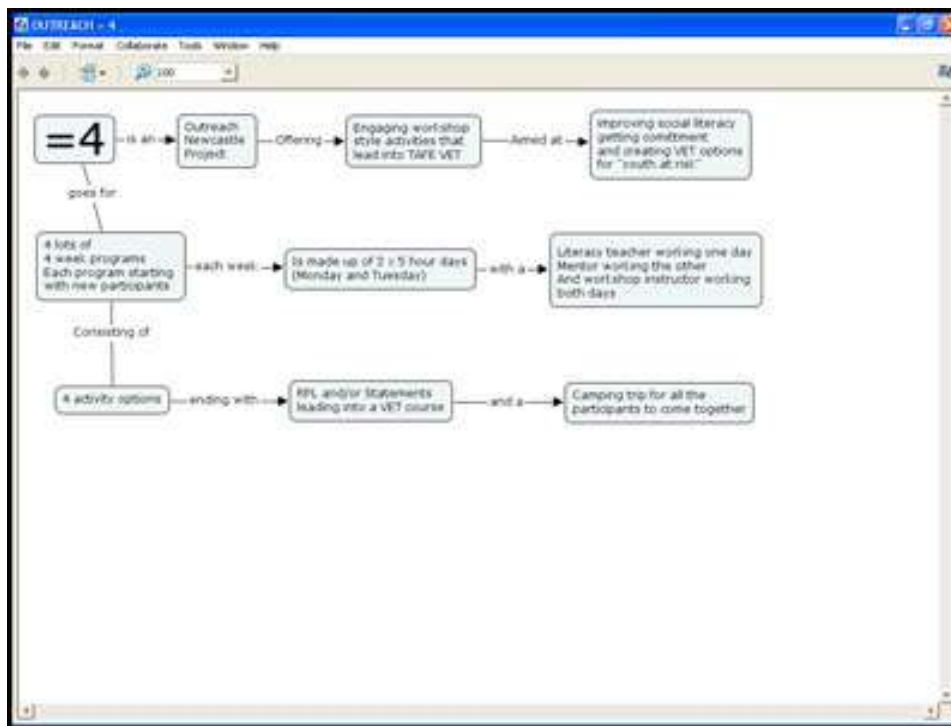
- FTP Site Manager
- Colour picker
- Tab based workspace
- CSS Editor
- Forms
- Auto spell checker!

Moodle – Course management system



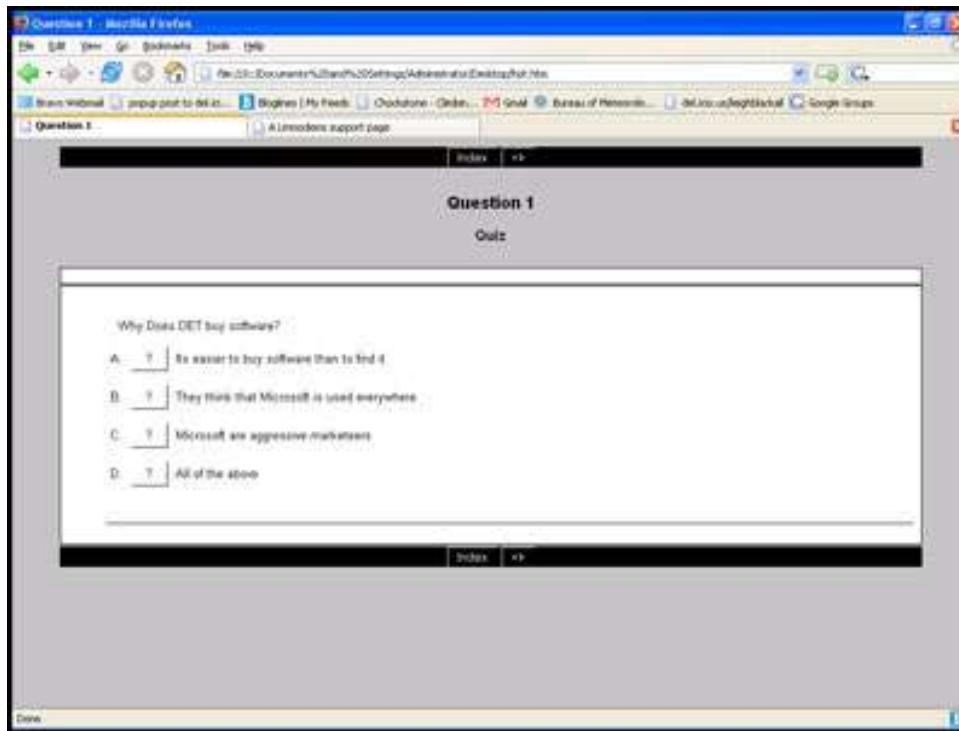
- Very popular Course Management System all around the world
- Very large and active online community support
- Good range of features
- May need IT support as it is installed on a server

Cmaps – concept mapping

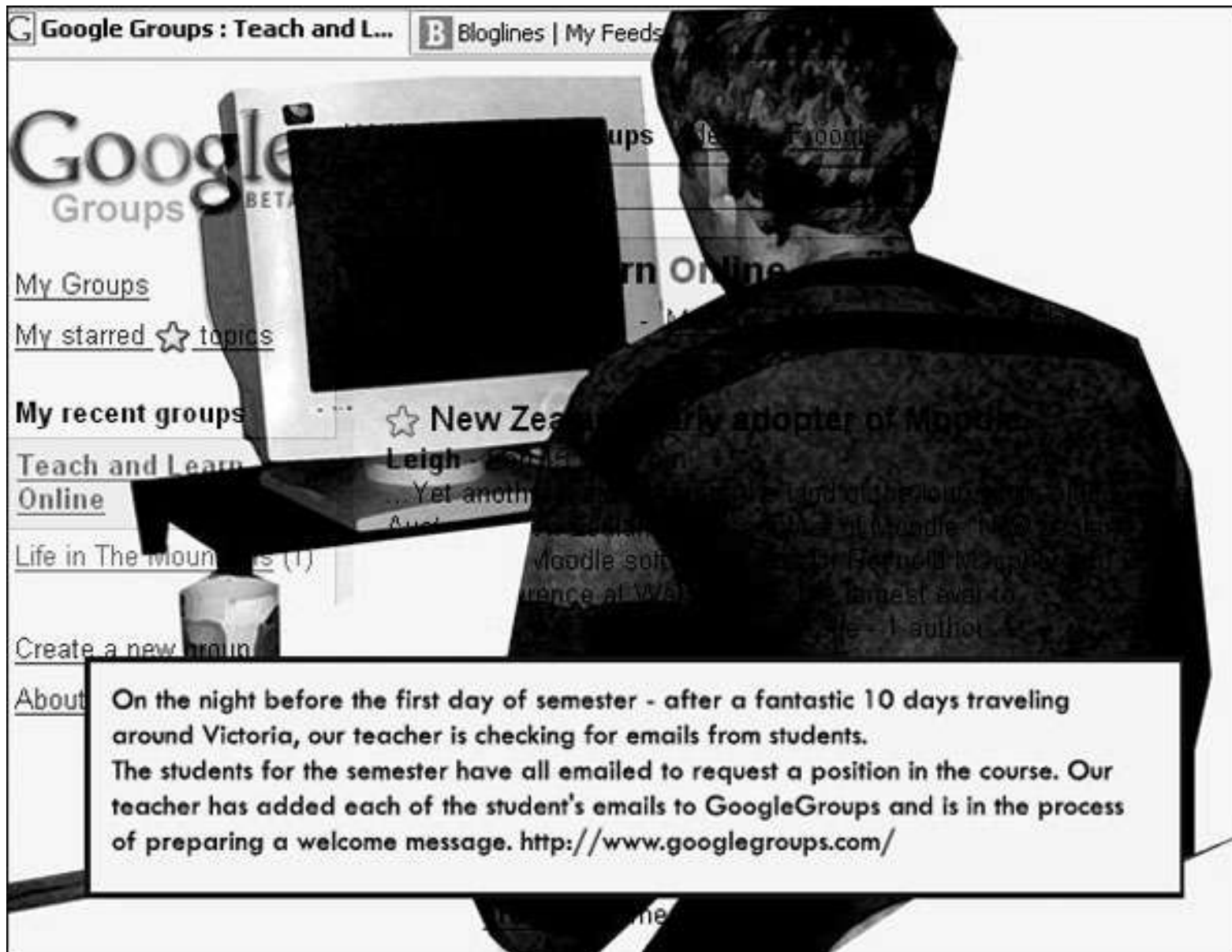


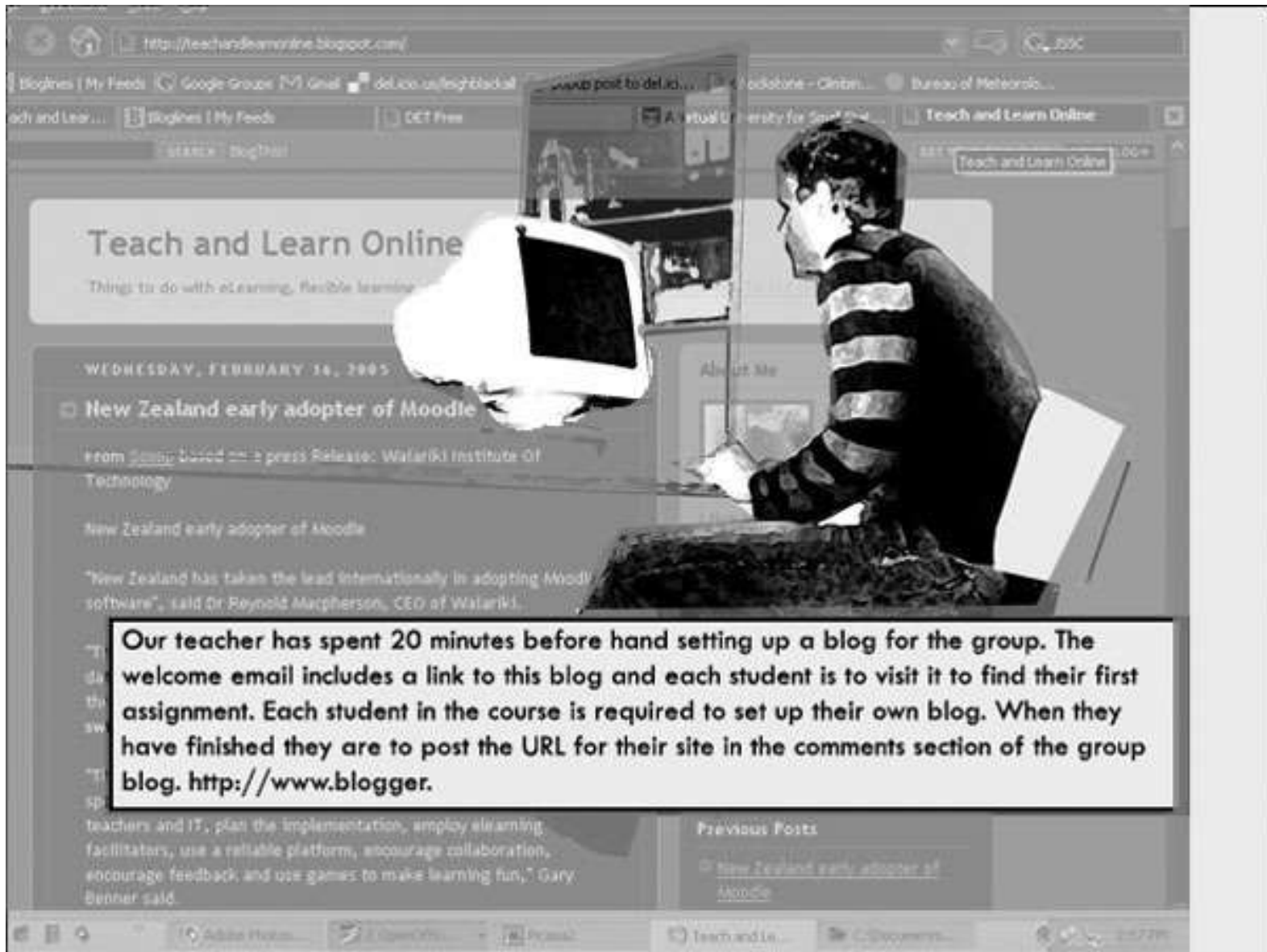
- Useful for visualisation of ideas and processes
- Is available as a server application

Hot Potatoes – Quiz maker



- Easy to use
- Create quizzes, cross words, drag and drops, and closed sentence tasks in HTML



The image is a composite. In the background, a person with glasses and a striped shirt is sitting at a desk, looking at a computer monitor. Overlaid on this is a screenshot of a web browser. The browser's address bar shows 'http://TeachandLearnOnline.blogspot.com/'. The page title is 'Teach and Learn Online' with the subtitle 'Things to do with eLearning, flexible learning'. The date 'WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005' is visible. The main post is titled 'New Zealand early adopter of Moodle' and includes a link to a press release from Watariki Institute of Technology. A text box is overlaid on the bottom half of the page, containing information about a teacher setting up a blog for a group. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including 'Teach and Learn Online' and 'C:\Documents...'.

http://TeachandLearnOnline.blogspot.com/

Bloglines | My Feeds | Google Groups | Gmail | del.icio.us/teightblackal... | Web post to del.icio.us | Moodle - Gint... | Bureau of Meteorolo...

Teach and Learn Online

Teach and Learn Online

Things to do with eLearning, flexible learning

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2005

New Zealand early adopter of Moodle

from [Source](#) based on a press Release: Watariki Institute of Technology

New Zealand early adopter of Moodle

"New Zealand has taken the lead internationally in adopting Moodle software", said Dr Reynold Macpherson, CEO of Watariki.

Our teacher has spent 20 minutes before hand setting up a blog for the group. The welcome email includes a link to this blog and each student is to visit it to find their first assignment. Each student in the course is required to set up their own blog. When they have finished they are to post the URL for their site in the comments section of the group blog. <http://www.blogger>.

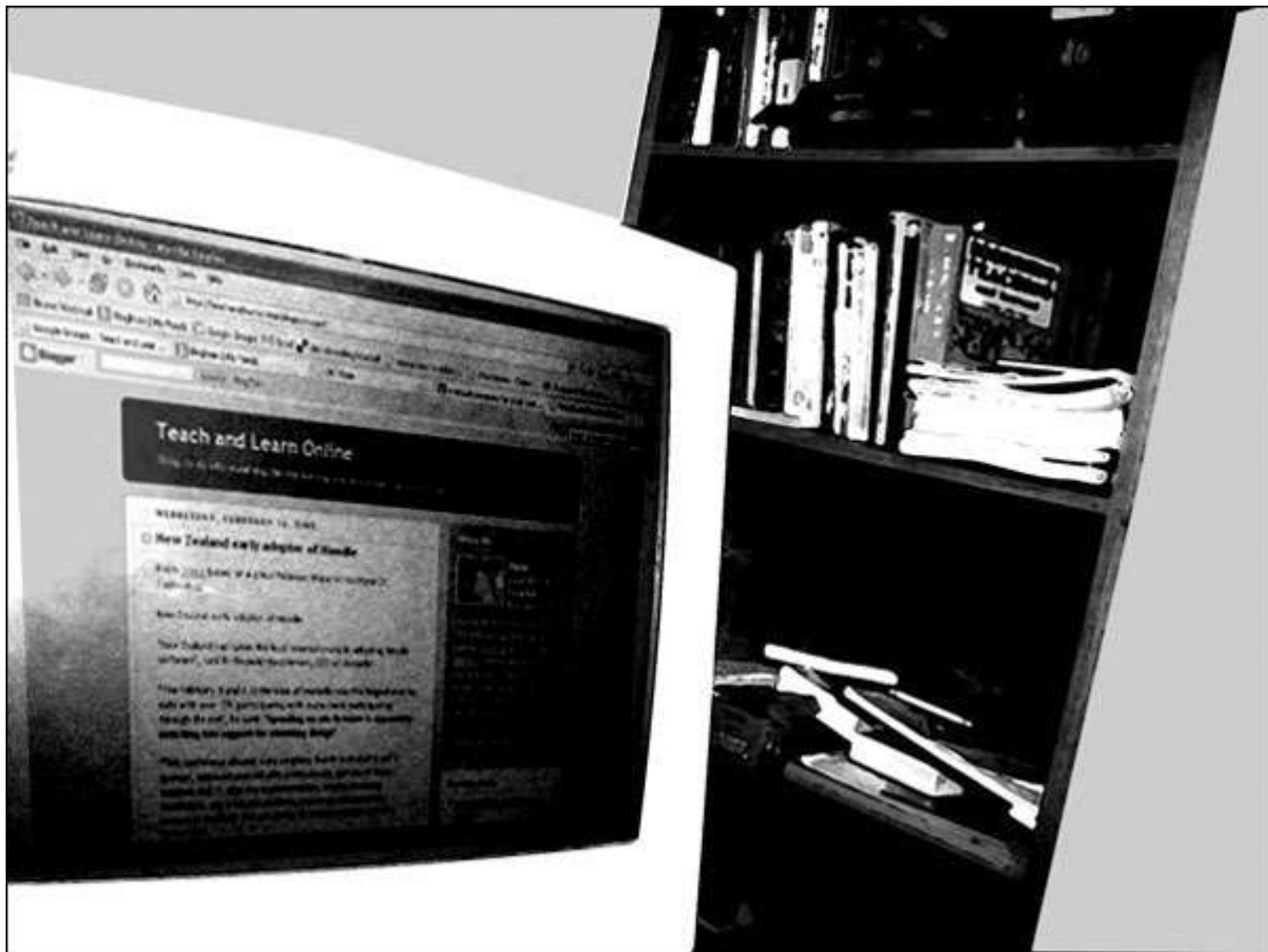
teachers and IT, plan the implementation, employ eLearning facilitators, use a reliable platform, encourage collaboration, encourage feedback and use games to make learning fun," Gary Benner said.

Previous Posts

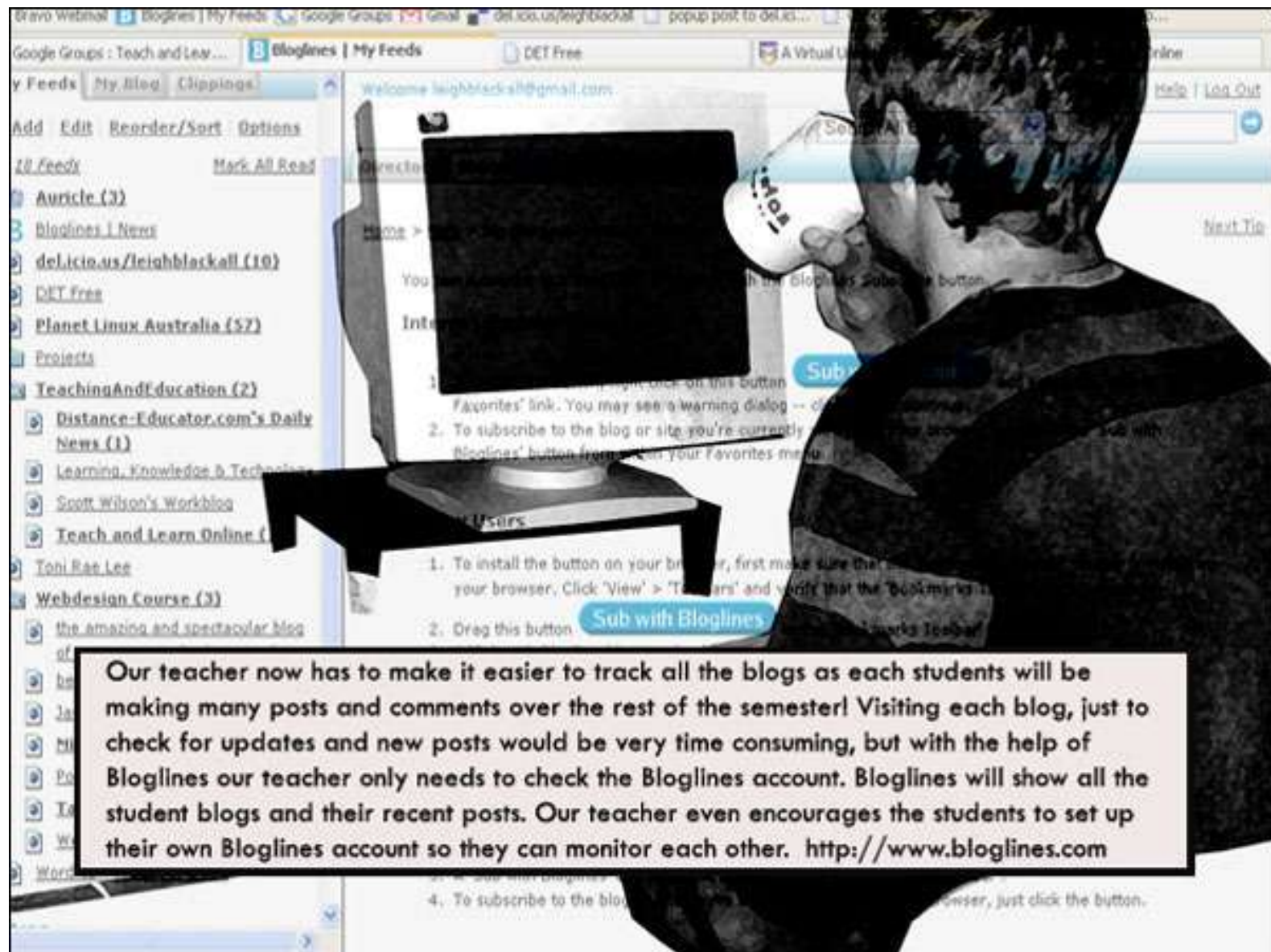
- New Zealand early adopter of Moodle

Teach and Learn Online

C:\Documents...







The image shows a person in profile, wearing a dark shirt and drinking from a white cup with a logo. They are looking at a computer monitor. The monitor displays a web browser window with the Bloglines 'My Feeds' page. The browser's address bar shows 'del.icio.us/leighblackall'. The left sidebar of the Bloglines page lists various feeds, including 'Auricle (3)', 'Bloglines | News', 'deLicious/leighblackall (10)', 'DET Free', 'Planet Linux Australia (57)', 'Projects', 'TeachingAndEducation (2)', 'Distance-Educator.com's Daily News (1)', 'Learning, Knowledge & Technology', 'Scott Wilson's Workblog', 'Teach and Learn Online (1)', 'Toni Rae Lee', 'Webdesign Course (3)', and 'the amazing and spectacular blog'. The main content area of the browser window shows a 'Welcome leighblackall@gmail.com' message and a list of instructions for using the Bloglines service. A blue button labeled 'Sub with Bloglines' is visible on the screen.

Our teacher now has to make it easier to track all the blogs as each students will be making many posts and comments over the rest of the semester! Visiting each blog, just to check for updates and new posts would be very time consuming, but with the help of Bloglines our teacher only needs to check the Bloglines account. Bloglines will show all the student blogs and their recent posts. Our teacher even encourages the students to set up their own Bloglines account so they can monitor each other. <http://www.bloglines.com>



Over the next week, the students are given some time to build up their Internet identities and socialise online. Workshops in the use of Hello and Flickr for image publishing, GeoCities for file storage, and email, Bloglines and Del.icio.us for information management are available as either AV downloads or face to face sessions on campus. When the students all have their identities sorted, the course is ready to begin.

<http://www.hello.com>; <http://www.flickr.com>; <http://www.geocities.com>; <http://del.icio.us.com>

OpenOffice.org 1.1

OpenOffice.org 1.1.2

Copyright 2004 Sun Microsystems, Inc.

This product has been created by Sun Microsystems, Inc. based on

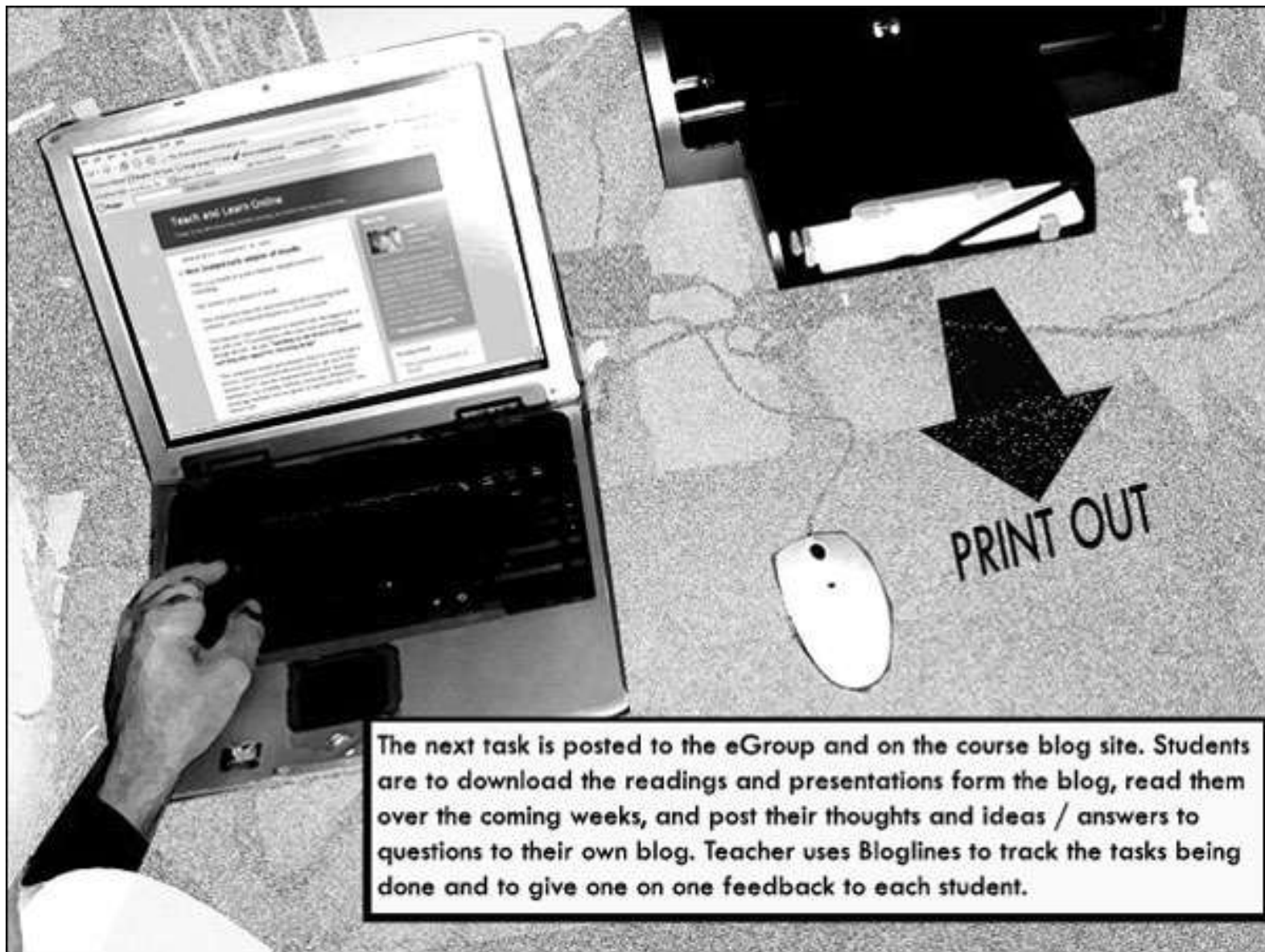
OpenOffice.org using the LGPL.

OpenOffice.org acknowledges all contributors, especially
those mentioned at

<http://www.openoffice.org/welcome>



Meanwhile, our teacher is preparing some educational resources. Because our teacher is using OpenOffice, the resources are easily published to PDF and SWF - formats that transport reliably over the Internet. Our teacher has set up a GeoCities account to store all this content on, and will link to the resources straight from the course blog so that all the resources are accessed from the one spot. <http://www.openoffice.org>; <http://www.geocities.com>



The next task is posted to the eGroup and on the course blog site. Students are to download the readings and presentations from the blog, read them over the coming weeks, and post their thoughts and ideas / answers to questions to their own blog. Teacher uses Bloglines to track the tasks being done and to give one on one feedback to each student.

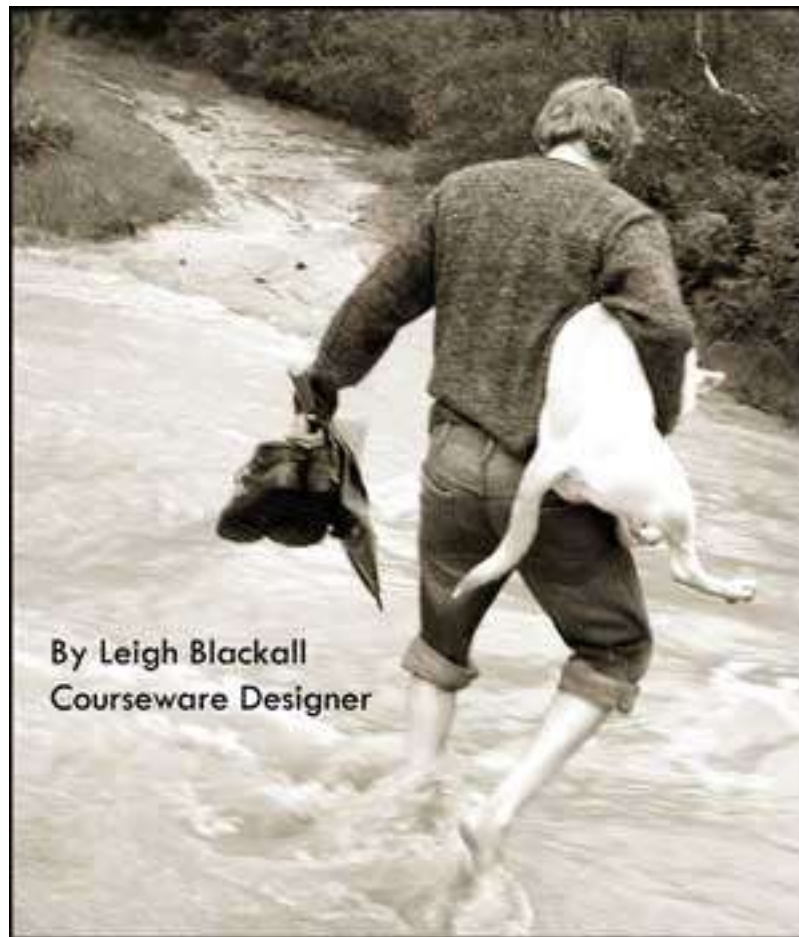


With reading comprehension rates reduced by up to 70% when reading is done on a computer screen, we must give our students more opportunities to read extended texts in print formats rather than on screen. We can use OpenOffice to design and publish quality readings for print. If we have students who cannot read, an mp3 recording of the text can be made using Audacity, and downloaded from the GeoCities site. This student has downloaded and printed the reading for the week. She has been free to read this paper on the bus, at the cafe and in bed without nearly the amount of eye strain she'd expect to get on a computer. Later, she will return to the computer and post her thoughts / answers to her blog site for her peers and teacher to review.

Advantages / Disadvantages

- Students have something to use after course
 - Students learn important and more advanced ICT skills
 - Easier to use (easy URL, common tools)
 - Teachers have more flexibility with tools that are easy to learn and use
 - Very low cost
 - Not locked in to high costs, heavy PD, and one single way of online pedagogy
- Initial staff development (2 hour workshop)
 - Still a high expectation on student ICT skills
 - Some FOSS applications will need to be installed on Institute computers. Some Institute IT support make installing software very difficult

Creating Free and Open Courseware



Creating free and open courseware:

- is good corporate citizenship
- promotes enrollment & services
- builds capacity
- encourages innovation
- offers flexibility
- improves equality
- empowers teachers and students
- promotes sharing & communication

What is Open Courseware

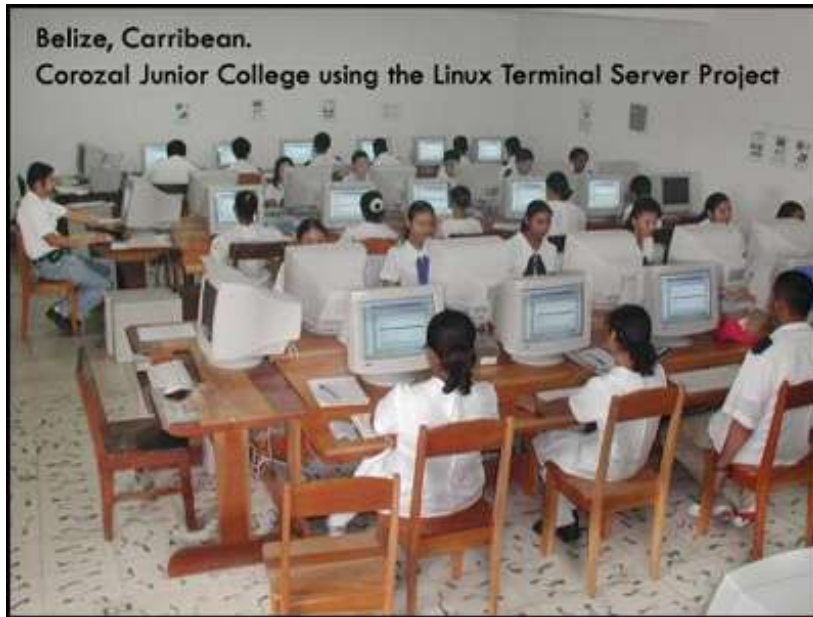
Educational resources that are:

- Free to use and open to be modified for educational purposes
- Easily accessible. Can be found in a Google search for example
- Not requiring enrollment fees, logins and passwords, or any other restriction to access
- Licensing available at:

creativecommons.org and
aesharenet.com.au/FfE



Free and Open Education for All!



Free and open to:

- Self educators
- Schools in under developed regions
- Other RTO
- The community
- The public

Further Reading

- Tan Wooi Tong

Free / Open Source Software Education

The Asia-Pacific Development Information Programme

e-Primers on Free/Open Source Software

<http://www.iosn.net>

- Pia Smith – President Linux Australia

ICT in Australia - Time to SOS (Share Our Source)

Presentation at the Unlocking IP Conference:

http://www.bakercyberlawcentre.org/unlocking-ip/s3_speakers.html#smith

- Phillip Crisp - Special Counsel, Australian Government Solicitors

New publishing paradigms and the 'Free-for Education' licence

Presentation at the Unlocking IP Conference:

http://www.bakercyberlawcentre.org/unlocking-ip/s4_speakers.html#crisp

- Marty Cielens

Open Designs for Communication & Collaboration

<http://cielens.designplanet.com.au/>

- John Perry

LMS Coordinator The Bremer Institute of TAFE

Open Source a new way to Manage Classroom Computing

<http://learnscope.flexiblelearning.net.au/learnscope/golearn.asp?category=1>

- Derek Morrison - Director, Centre for the Development of New Technologies in Learning, University of Bath.

E-Learning Flexible Frameworks and Tools: Is it too late ? – the Director's Cut

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/e-learning/download/DM20040909.pdf>

- Using Open Source Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs)

Report from conference held at Working Mens College, Friday 11th June 04

http://www.rsc-london.ac.uk/events/event_reports/oss-vle/eventreport.htm

- And keep an eye on the following sites for up to the minute info:

<http://teachandlearnonline.blogspot.com>

<http://del.icio.us/leighblackall>